

AFFIDAVIT

I, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Special Agent (SA) Clark S. Powers (your affiant), being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. Your affiant has been employed by HSI since December 2016, having been assigned to our Sells, Arizona office. During that time, your affiant was assigned to the Sells Border Enforcement and Security Task Force (BEST), which focused on human, narcotics, bulk cash, and weapon smuggling occurring between Ports of Entry (POE) and the Phoenix, AZ metropolitan area. Beginning in October 2020, your affiant was assigned to the HSI Columbus, Ohio office, as a participating member of the Central Ohio High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) multi-agency task force. Your affiant gained experience by obtaining a Bachelor of the Arts Degree in Criminal Justice in 2007, completing the Criminal Investigator Training Program (CITP) and completion of the HSI Special Agent Training Academy in 2017. During CITP and HSI Academy training, your affiant was instructed in all phases of criminal investigation such as: Criminal Law, Search and Seizure, Field Enforcement Techniques, Firearms Proficiency, and Interviewing and Evidence Collection. Prior to becoming a Special Agent, your affiant served as a United States Border Patrol Agent in Ajo, AZ from September 2008 to December 2016. Your affiant is responsible for enforcing federal criminal statutes including, but not limited to, controlled substance violations, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. §§ 841 and 846.

2. While employed as a Special Agent, your affiant has conducted and participated in numerous investigations of criminal activity, including bulk cash smuggling, human smuggling, firearms and bulk ammunition smuggling, law enforcement officer assault

investigations, and controlled substance investigations. These investigations have included interviewing defendants and witnesses, conducting surveillance, controlling informants, preparing, and serving search warrants, as well as executing arrest warrants, and seizing evidence associated with criminal activity. Your affiant is familiar with narcotics traffickers' methods of operation including the importation, storage, distribution, transportation of illegal drugs, the collection of money, and the laundering of illicit proceeds derived from criminal activity.

3. The information set forth in this affidavit is based upon my knowledge, training, experience, and participation in investigations involving the smuggling, possession, distribution, and storage of narcotics and illicit proceeds derived from the sale of narcotics. This information is also based on the knowledge, training, experience, and investigations conducted by fellow law enforcement officers, who have reported to me either directly or indirectly. Your affiant believes this information to be true and reliable. I know it is a violation of 21 U.S.C. § 846 for any person to knowingly possess and/or conspire to possess with the intent to distribute a controlled substance.

4. The information set forth in this affidavit is based upon my personal participation in this investigation, as well as information obtained from other HSI Special Agents, and sheriff's deputies assisting in this investigation.

5. Because this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of securing a criminal complaint and arrest warrant, your affiant has not included each and every fact known to me concerning this investigation. Your affiant has set forth only the facts that he believes are necessary to establish probable cause to believe that Lance Tacory MAYFIELD violated 21 U.S.C. § 846.

FACTS ESTABLISHING PROBABLE CAUSE

6. The United States, including Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO), are conducting a criminal investigation of Antony Albert HERNANDEZ (hereafter referred to as HERNANDEZ), Lance Tacory MAYFIELD (hereafter referred to as MAYFIELD), Estevan ESQUIBEL Lara, and Richard ELIZONDO Jr., who are suspected of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute more than 5 kilograms of methamphetamine, in violation of Title 21 U.S.C. § 846.

7. To date, this investigation has shown that ELIZONDO, ESQUIBEL, and MAYFIELD are based out of California and Texas, and have coordinated the transportation and delivery of narcotics and money from California to Ohio via commercial aircraft.

8. On December 22, 2022, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Task Force Officer (TFO) Ryan Gibbons was contacted by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in reference to an undeclared Glock 9mm pistol that was located during TSA bag screening. The bag containing the firearm was checked-in with American Airlines flight AA3894, from Cleveland, OH (CLE) to O'Hare International, Chicago, IL (ORD), by Estevan Ladislado Lara-ESQUIBEL ("ESQUIBEL"), DOB 06/12/1992. ORD was ESQUIBEL's connecting flight to his final destination of Los Angeles, CA (LAX), via flight AA1502.

9. After TSA located the undeclared firearm, they escorted the bag back to the American Airlines ticket counter and requested that American Airlines have ESQUIBEL return to the ticket counter. ESQUIBEL had already boarded the flight to ORD. The boarding process for AA3894 concluded and the door to the jet bridge was closed. An American Airlines gate agent removed ESQUIBEL from flight AA3894 and asked him to return to the American

Airlines ticket counter. ESQUIBEL did not return to the ticket counter and abandoned the bag by leaving the airport. It was later discovered, via a review of Cleveland Hopkins security camera footage, that ESQUIBEL exited Cleveland Hopkins Airport and was picked up by an unknown person near the now-closed Sheraton hotel.

10. TSA's administrative search of ESQUIBEL's dark green roller bag revealed a Glock 45 9mm pistol, 457 rounds of Winchester 9mm ammunition, and two Glock magazines in vacuum sealed plastic.

11. It was discovered that ESQUIBEL had a second checked bag, a "black Lucas roller bag," that was not removed from the plane prior to its departure. That second bag was returned to CLE due to ESQUIBEL not being aboard the flight. Task Force Officer Cline took custody of the black Lucas roller bag, belonging to ESQUIBEL, from the American Airlines baggage office at approximately 5:00 pm on December 22, 2022.

12. A canine sniff was conducted on the black Lucas roller bag by Cleveland Police Officer Andrejcek and his canine partner Finnegan, who has been a narcotics detection canine since 2017. Finnegan is trained and certified by the Ohio Peace Officer's Training Commission (OPOTA) to alert to heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine, and marijuana. Officer Andrejcek advised Task Force Officer Cline that Finnegan alerted to the presence of an illegal narcotic odor on the black Lucas roller bag.

13. A search warrant for ESQUIBEL's black Lucas roller bag was sought and received in the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court. Cuyahoga County Judge Nancy Russo signed the search warrant. The search warrant for ESQUIBEL's black Lucas roller bag was executed by Task Force Officer Cline and Task Force Officer Gibbons on December 27, 2022.

14. A warrant search of ESQUIBEL's black Lucas roller bag revealed 136 grams (bag weight) of Fentanyl in vacuum sealed plastic, a Colt 1911 38 Super pistol vacuum sealed in plastic, one Colt 38 Super magazine, and 247 rounds of Winchester 38 Super ammunition.

15. Further investigation showed that ESQUIBEL was travelling with Richard ELIZONDO Jr. ("ELIZANDO") DOB 11/04/2004. Additional review of Cleveland Hopkins security camera footage revealed ESQUIBEL and ELIZONDO arrived at the airport together. Upon entering the airport, they walked to the American Airlines ticket counter, but spoke to separate agents. The camera footage showed that ELIZONDO checked a nearly identical bag to ESQUIBEL's black Lucas roller bag and also transported a medium sized roller bag through the north TSA checkpoint. ESQUIBEL appeared to have paid for ELIZONDO's checked bag.

16. Research conducted on ELIZONDO by investigators revealed that on September 19, 2022, HSI Minneapolis, MN seized \$45,000.00, which was believed to be proceeds from drug trafficking, from ELIZONDO at the Minneapolis Airport.

17. Investigators further learned, on October 27, 2022, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Dallas, TX seized \$12,000.00, which was believed to be proceeds from drug trafficking, from ESQUIBEL.

18. On January 14, 2023, ELIZONDO arrived in Columbus, OH (CMH) from LAX with a checked bag. On January 16, 2023, HSI Cleveland interdicted ELIZONDO as he was about to depart. He was carrying approximately \$10,000 cash and only transporting a backpack. To avoid alerting ELIZONDO of any on-going investigation, he was allowed to board his flight to LAX with the claimed cash.

19. On December 27, 2022, investigators subpoenaed toll records for telephone number 626-510-0241, which was the telephone number that ESQUIBEL provided to American Airlines for his December 22, 2022, flight. A review of the toll records from around the date of the Fentanyl seizure on December 22, 2022, provided investigators with multiple numbers of interest. Two of the numbers of interest were 614-475-4450 (Tri Link Storage Facility in Columbus, OH) and 682-559-1686.

20. On January 6, 2023, investigators subpoenaed AT&T regarding 682-559-1686. The subscriber information listed for 682-559-1686 was listed as Lance MAYFIELD of 729 Rawlins Dr., Apt 309, Lancaster, TX. It stated MAYFIELD had been a customer since 08/19/2021. There was an email address (Newnewlove@rocketmail.com) linked to the account for MAYFIELD. The account was still showing as active and current.

21. On January 17, 2023, HSI SA Curtis Brabender, assigned to the Columbus, OH field office, served a subpoena on TriLink Storage located at 2470 Sunbury Rd. Columbus, OH. This subpoena requested all information regarding rental units tied to ESQUIBEL and/or ELIZONDO.

22. On February 8, 2023, HSI SA Brabender met with the manager of TriLink Storage located at 2470 Sunbury Rd., Columbus, OH to retrieve all files related to the previously submitted subpoena. TriLink provided all files they had related to Unit #244 located at their Sunbury Rd. location. According to the records provided by TriLink Storage, Unit #244 was rented by Estevan ESQUIBEL with listed mailing address of 4848 Walnut Rd., Phillan, CA 92371. ESQUIBEL provided phone number 626-510-0241 and an email address of estevan.esquibel@icloud.com. ESQUIBEL had rented a 5x5x8 unit for \$80.63 per month. The agreement was signed on 11/22/2022. The gate access code assigned for this unit is 5623924.

23. The identification document provided was a photograph taken of a California Identification Card: E1106849. This ID card is for Estevan Ladislado ESQUIBEL Lara, with a date of birth: 06/12/1992. The address listed on the ID is 25590 Prospect Ave., 24C, Loma Linda, CA 92354. This address is different than that which was listed on the rental agreement for Unit #244. This ID was issued on 09/03/2021.

24. TriLink provided a list of access dates and times for their storage facility. Every unit has a unique access code, so the list provided only showed the access granted for gate code 5623924, which matched the number listed on the above-mentioned contract. The following is a breakdown of dates the code was used to access the storage facility secure area.

Date	Number of Times Used to Access Facility
November 22, 2022	3
November 23, 2022	2
November 28, 2022	3
November 30, 2022	2
December 1, 2022	2
December 2, 2022	4
December 3, 2022	1
December 4, 2022	5
December 5, 2022	1
December 6, 2022	2
December 7, 2022	3

December 8, 2022	3
December 9, 2022	3
December 10, 2022	1
December 15, 2022	1
December 16, 2022	1
December 21, 2022	1
December 22, 2022	3
December 29, 2022	2
December 30, 2022	2
January 1, 2023	2
January 10, 2023	1
February 2, 2023	3
February 3, 2023	1

25. SA Brabender was able to review surveillance camera footage from the February 2nd and 3rd dates, which depicted the security camera viewshed fixed upon the facility's secured entry gate, where the access keypad is also located. The same four door silver Chevrolet Malibu sedan bearing Ohio registration: JID2649 was observed at the TriLink Storage entry gate each of the four times the code was entered to gain access. This vehicle is registered to PV Holding Corp with a listed address of 3801 International GTWY Columbus, OH. This is one of the rental car facilities located at the Columbus International Airport. SA Brabender was able to observe what appeared to be a black male driver, wearing a black coat, enter the code into the gate.

27. On February 8, 2023, investigators subpoenaed Avis Budget Group regarding rental information pertaining to the Chevy Malibu bearing Ohio registration JID2649.

28. On February 9, 2023, HSI TFO Gibbons received information from a subpoena that showed Lance MAYFIELD (DOB: 06/21/1995) with a listed address of 729 Rawlins Dr., Lancaster, TX 75146 as the customer who rented the Chevy from February 1, 2023, through February 3, 2023. The listed phone number on the reservation was 682-559-1686. The driver's license number listed on the reservation was 47803568, which matches MAYFIELD's TX driver's license.

29. On February 9, 2023, SA Brabender met with the on-site manager of AVIS rental cars located at 4106 International Gateway, Columbus, OH 43219. This is the rental car facility located at the Columbus International Airport. The manager was able to pull up surveillance video tied to the February 1, 2023, renting of the Chevy Malibu, JID2649. A black male, wearing a black winter coat, backpack, and carrying a Nike shoe box can be seen approaching the counter. The individual appears to be the same build as Lance MAYFIELD's driver's license describes him. Additionally, the coat he is wearing at the rental car facility appears to match the coat worn by the driver of the Malibu when accessing the storage facility on February 2nd and 3rd. SA Brabender believes, given the registration for the vehicle was listed under MAYFIELD's name, it is likely indeed MAYFIELD who rented the vehicle. No other persons are observed walking in or out of the rental terminal with MAYFIELD.

30. On March 14, 2023, at approximately 1:58 pm, Officer Troy Gibson with the Delaware County Sheriff's Office utilized his narcotics detection canine to conduct an open-air sniff of Unit #244 at the TriLink Storage facility, located at 2470 Sunbury Rd., Columbus, OH.

Officer Gibson's canine alerted to the presence of a narcotics odor he is trained to detect emanating from inside unit #244.

31. On March 14, 2023, at approximately 4:15 pm, investigators learned that Lance MAYFIELD and another individual identified as Antony HERNANDEZ were arriving at John Glenn International Airport via Spirit Airlines flight NK888 from Los Angeles. Investigators previously identified HERNANDEZ as a commonly called individual from February 2023 telephone tolls from MAYFIELD's phone number, 682-559-1686 (PN 1686).

32. On March 14, 2023, at approximately 5:20 pm, investigators conducted surveillance as HERNANDEZ and MAYFIELD exited the aircraft and proceeded to the baggage claim area of the airport. MAYFIELD immediately departed the airport, taking an airport shuttle to the rental car parking deck, located just under one mile from the main airport terminal. MAYFIELD was observed approaching the Avis Budget rental car counter, where he was issued a Volkswagen Passat, bearing Tennessee registration BHW0175. Investigators observed MAYFIELD drive several times around International Gateway loop, giving the appearance that he was going to pick up an additional passenger. HERNANDEZ remained in the airport until he could retrieve a checked-in bag from baggage claim. HERNANDEZ was observed to be talking on his cellular phone as he retrieved a dark gray, hard shell, roller suitcase. As HERNANDEZ departed the airport, he was approached by investigators. HERNANDEZ gave consent for investigators to search his checked-in bag. Investigators observed that the zipper for the roller bag's main compartment was super glued shut. Concealed within the lining of HERNANDEZ's bag was approximately 15 pounds of a crystal substance which tested presumptive positive for methamphetamines. MAYFIELD departed the airport in the Volkswagen Passat shortly after

investigators contacted HERNANDEZ. The mobile surveillance team eventually lost visual of the Volkswagen Passat and returned to the airport.

33. In a post Miranda interview, HERNANDEZ admitted to transporting a suitcase, which he initially stated he believed to contain marijuana, from Los Angeles, CA to Columbus, OH. HERNANDEZ identified his facilitator for the smuggling attempt as a skinny, African-American male, known to HERNANDEZ as "Trappo". HERNANDEZ provided consent to search the iPhone 5 found on his person, and identified a contact saved as "OH" with listed phone number 682-559-1686. Investigators previously determined that this phone number is subscribed to by Lance Tacory MAYFIELD.

34. HERNANDEZ stated that MAYFIELD was utilizing a storage unit in Columbus, Ohio to store narcotics. HERNANDEZ explained that he was last in Ohio with MAYFIELD approximately one month prior to his March 14, 2023 encounter with investigators, in order to transport a similar amount of methamphetamine. HERNANDEZ indicated that MAYFIELD eventually showed HERNANDEZ the storage unit used to store narcotics. HERNANDEZ described the storage unit as being located next to a school and near a large green field. The TriLink Storage location, where Unit #244 is located, is bordered on the north by Mifflin Middle School and bordered on the east by North East Park, which matches the description provided by HERNANDEZ. Investigators showed an ariel photograph of TriLink Storage, located at 2470 Sunbury Rd. Columbus, OH, to HERNANDEZ. HERNANDEZ positively identified the exact area of unit #244 as being the storage locker that MAYFIELD was using to store narcotics.

35. HERNANDEZ stated he had transported marijuana previously via commercial flights approximately 15 times. Once he was introduced to Trappo, aka MAYFIELD, HERNANDEZ agreed to transport methamphetamine, telling MAYFIELD "If it pays better, I'm

down”. HERNANDEZ stated he was to be paid approximately \$7,000 upon successful completion of the transportation attempt.

36. As a result of the positive K-9 alert on TriLink Storage Unit #244 on March 14, 2023, and the information obtained from the custodial interview of HERNANDEZ, investigators applied for, and were granted a Franklin County Municipal Court Search Warrant for TriLink Self Storage Unit #244, located at 2470 Sunbury Rd., Columbus, OH 43219. Franklin County Municipal Court Judge Jarrod B. Skinner issued the search warrant at approximately 8:50 pm. At approximately 9:50 pm, investigators entered Unit #244. Inside Unit #244, investigators located a vacuum sealer, wrapping and packaging materials similar to those found in HERNANDEZ’s roller bag, 3 digital scales, several hard-shell roller bags which had been cut open, a United States Parcel Service parcel return service receipt addressed to Lance MAYFIELD at 729 Rawlins Dr., Lancaster, TX, and an AT&T packing slip addressed to Lance MAYFIELD at 729 Rawlins Dr., Lancaster, TX. The AT&T packing slip listed mobile phone number 682-559-1686.

37. During a post Miranda interview with HERNANDEZ on March 14, 2023, HERNANDEZ identified phone number 682-559-1686 (**PN 1686**) as belonging to his narcotics source named “Trappo”. The phone number was saved on HERNANDEZ’s iPhone under the contact “OH”. Trappo is known to investigators as Lance Tacory MAYFIELD (hereafter referred to as MAYFIELD). Investigators previously issued Controlled Substances Enforcement Subpoena HSI-CU-2023-088454 upon AT&T for **PN 1686**. AT&T identified MAYFIELD as the subscriber of **PN 1686**.

38. Phone toll analysis conducted for HERNANDEZ’s **PN 9357** identified 38 unique contacts between **PN 9357** and MAYFIELD’s **PN 1686**, between February 3, 2023 and March 16, 2023. Of those contacts, 26 took place on March 14, 2023, the same date that HERNANDEZ

and MAYFIELD were aboard Spirit Airlines flight NK 888 to Columbus, OH. HERNANDEZ told investigators that he was on the phone with MAYFIELD when he was approached by investigators at the airport, on March 14, 2023. Phone toll analysis confirmed this to be true.

39. On March 23, 2023, SA Clark Powers served a subpoena to the on-site manager of Avis Budget Group located at 4106 International Gateway, Columbus, OH 43219. This is the rental car facility at the Columbus International Airport. The subpoena requested rental information pertaining to a Volkswagen Passat, bearing Tennessee registration BHW0175, which investigators had observed MAYFIELD driving during a surveillance operation on March 14, 2023. The on-site manager was able to locate video footage from the March 14, 2023 renting of the Volkswagen Passat, BWJ0175. In the video, a black male, matching the individual observed by investigators during the surveillance operation, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt, and carrying a black backpack is seen approaching the counter. Additional video footage depicted the Volkswagen Passat as it exited the rental car parking deck.

40. On March 31, 2023, SA Powers received a secure electronic response from Avis Budget Group identifying Lance MAYFIELD as the renter of the Volkswagen Passat, bearing Tennessee registration BWH0175, between March 14, 2023 and March 21, 2023. The message further listed MAYFIELD's date of birth as June 21, 1995 and listed address 729 Rawlins Dr., Lancaster, TX 75146. MAYFIELD's contact number was listed as 682-559-1686 (**PN 1686**), which investigators confirmed as being subscribed to by MAYFIELD.

41. On April 4, 2023, SA Powers was granted Federal search and seizure warrant 2:23-mj-229 for the search of an Apple iPhone 5 (hereafter referred to as **Phone 1**), which was found in the possession of HERNANDEZ on March 14, 2023. United States Magistrate Judge Kimberly A. Jolson signed the warrant. On April 10, 2023, SA Powers transferred custody of

Phone 1 to Forensic Computer Specialist (FCS) Phillip Hinders of the Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center (ONIC). FCS Hinders was provided a copy of federal search warrant 2:23-mj-229 before initiating the forensic examination of **Phone 1**.

42. On April 18, 2023, FCS Hinders provided SA Powers with a copy of the forensic examination of **Phone 1** for review. **Phone 1** was returned to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office property room for secure storage.

43. The initial review of the forensic examination identified **Phone 1** as a third generation Apple iPhone SE, bearing Mobile Subscriber ISDN 520-600-9357. The associated device name was listed as "Antony's iPhone". The Apple ID was listed as gusherboyss@icloud.com. A Google Gmail account attributed to the device was listed as antonyhernandez9099@gmail.com. Investigators observed numerous communications between HERNANDEZ utilizing **Phone 1** and MAYFIELD utilizing **PN 1686** between February 2023 and March 14, 2023. Text messages between HERNANDEZ and MAYFIELD on March 14, 2023 confirmed that the two knowingly discussed recovering the suitcase found to contain methamphetamine and furthermore that MAYFIELD was present on the same flight with HERNANDEZ.

Date	Time (UTC-4)	Sender	Content
3/14/2023	11:35 AM	T (HERNANDEZ)	U on?
3/14/2023	11:35 AM	OH (MAYFIELD)	Yea
3/14/2023	11:35 AM	HERNANDEZ	U front or back
3/14/2023	11:35 AM	MAYFIELD	Way
3/14/2023	11:35 AM	MAYFIELD	Back
3/14/2023	11:40 AM	HERNANDEZ	Middle

3/14/2023	11:40 AM	MAYFIELD	Way
3/14/2023	11:40 AM	MAYFIELD	Ok
3/14/2023	11:40 AM	HERNANDEZ	High asf
3/14/2023	11:40 AM	HERNANDEZ	Lol smacking the pen
3/14/2023	11:41 AM	MAYFIELD	Samnnnn I needa hit
3/14/2023	11:41 AM	HERNANDEZ	What number u on
3/14/2023	11:41 AM	MAYFIELD	24
3/14/2023	11:41 AM	MAYFIELD	Ima wait
3/14/2023	11:41 AM	MAYFIELD	It's cool
3/14/2023	11:41 AM	HERNANDEZ	Okay when we middle air just follow me to the back bathroom
3/14/2023	11:41 AM	HERNANDEZ	Bet
3/14/2023	4:21 PM	HERNANDEZ	Way
3/14/2023	4:22 PM	MAYFIELD	Coming
3/14/2023	4:25 PM	HERNANDEZ	It's was gray?
3/14/2023	4:29 PM	MAYFIELD	Yea black ish grey
3/14/2023	4:31 PM	HERNANDEZ	Ok
3/14/2023	4:40 PM	MAYFIELD	You get bag yet
3/14/2023	5:22 PM	MAYFIELD	Yooo
3/14/2023	5:22 PM	MAYFIELD	????
3/14/2023	5:23 PM	MAYFIELD	Bro wtf they there

44. Located amongst the contacts saved on **Phone 1** was a Cash App contact listed as "Big Trappo". The Cash App contact was also associated with **PN 1686**. The associated cashtag

for this contact is “**\$bigtrappo1**”, which is listed under account **C_hecndgnh2**. A review of the user accounts on **Phone 1** identified the Cash App account utilized by HERNANDEZ. The display name for the account is “Gusherpac”. The cashtag is listed as “**\$gusherboyss**” with associated phone number 520-600-9357 (**Phone 1**), email address gusherboys909@gmail.com, and account **C_ftdpcpmh9**. On March 13, 2023, at approximately 6:29 pm, HERNANDEZ received an email notification from cash@square.com to his gusherboys909@gmail.com email address, which indicated in the subject line that “Big Trappo sent you \$220”. On March 14, 2023, at approximately 3:53 am, HERNANDEZ received an email notification from cash@square.com to his gusherboys909@gmail.com email address, which indicated in the subject line that “Big Trappo sent you \$61”. On March 13, 2023, at approximately 6:34 pm, HERNANDEZ received an email notification from cash@square.com to his gusherboys909@gmail email address, which indicated in the subject line that “You spent \$219.89 at Spirit Airlines”. On March 14, 2023, at approximately 3:56 am, HERNANDEZ received an email notification from cash@square.com to his gusherboys909@gmail.com email address, which indicated in the subject line that “You spent \$61 at Spirit Airlines”.

45. Controlled Substances Enforcement Subpoena HSI-CU-2023-089474 was previously served upon Spirit Airlines for booking and payment information related to HERNANDEZ and MAYFIELD for Spirit Airlines Flight NK 888. The information received indicated that HERNANDEZ and MAYFIELD paid \$219.89 for one (1) adult ticket each, as well as a \$61.00 additional fee. Based on the Cash App transfers from MAYFIELD to HERNANDEZ, it is evident that MAYFIELD sent HERNANDEZ the money needed to purchase a ticket aboard Spirit Airlines Flight NK 888 on March 14, 2023, in furtherance of their methamphetamine trafficking conspiracy.

46. On May 12, 2023, investigators returned to Tri Link Storage Unit #244 after receiving notification from the property manager that Unit #244 and its contents had been declared forfeit due to delinquency on payment. Once the storage unit was opened by the property manager, it appeared that nothing had changed since the unit was originally searched on March 14, 2023. During this visit, SA Powers discovered a sealed Hefty brand zip-lock bag concealed amongst miscellaneous clothing, which appeared to contain trace amounts of a crystal-like substance. The substance was later field tested presumptive positive for methamphetamine.

47. On March 16, 2023, SA Powers submitted the suspected methamphetamine bulk quantity seized from HERNANDEZ to the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Laboratories and Scientific Services Directorate (LSSD) for chemical analysis. On September 6, 2023, CBP LSSD provided the results of their analysis, indicating that the substance seized was Methamphetamine Hydrochloride, a Schedule II Controlled Substance. Composite testing further indicated that the Methamphetamine Hydrochloride seized on March 14, 2023, contained an average purity of 100%.

48. On October 16, 2023, SA Powers and Federal Bureau of Investigation SA Jovani Esposito received information from a confidential source (CS-1) during a consensual interview at the Gallia County Sheriff's Office in Gallipolis, Ohio. CS-1 was shown a photo of Lance Tacory MAYFIELD whom he/she identified as "nephew". CS-1 was introduced to MAYFIELD by a mutual acquaintance in Columbus, OH because CS-1 wanted to purchase methamphetamine. CS-1 indicated that MAYFIELD had shipped two parcels, totaling approximately 50 pounds of methamphetamines, to his/her residence, pending distribution by MAYFIELD, approximately 18 to 24 months prior to his/her meeting with investigators. CS-1 stated MAYFIELD utilized USPS to send the parcels from California to Ohio and that MAYFIELD utilized the name of a deceased

family member of CS-1 as the listed shipper for each parcel. CS-1 indicated that MAYFIELD travelled to Ohio in order to retrieve the parcels from CS-1's residence.

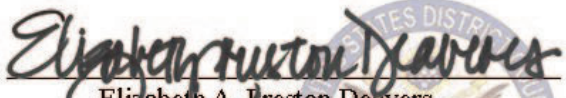
CONCLUSION

49. Based on the foregoing facts, your affiant believes that there is probable cause to believe that Lance Tacory MAYFIELD violated 21 U.S.C. § 846, conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute more than 5 kilograms of methamphetamine. Accordingly, your affiant requests the issuance of a criminal complaint and arrest warrant for Lance Tacory MAYFIELD.



Special Agent Clark Powers
Homeland Security Investigations

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of November, 2023.


Elizabeth A. Preston Deavers
United States Magistrate Judge